

Fort Sheridan Ordnance Storehouse
(Building No. 59)

3588 Lyster Rd.

Fort Sheridan

Lake County

Illinois

HABS No. IL-1113-20

HABS

ILL,

49-FTSH,

1/20-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20243

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. IL-1113-20

FORT SHERIDAN, ORDNANCE STOREHOUSE

(Building No. 59)

FORT SHERIDAN HISTORIC DISTRICT

HABS
ILL,
49-FTSH,
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Location: 3588 Lyster Road.
Fort Sheridan, Lake County, Illinois.

USGS Highland Park Quadrangle, Universal Transverse
Mercator Coordinates: 16. 432720. 4673660.

Present Owner
and Occupant: United States Army.

Present Use: Non-Commissioned Officer's Quarters.

Significance: A Holabird and Roche designed building which is an excellent example of an ordnance warehouse on a military post and which adds to the comprehensiveness of the late 19th century building stock at Fort Sheridan.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: 1892.
2. Architect: Holabird and Roche, Chicago.
3. Original and subsequent owners: U.S. Army from date of construction to the present.
4. Contractor: Jonathan Clark and Sons and Company.
5. Original plan and construction: The rectangular building is constructed of buff-cream brick with the ridge of the gable-on-hip roof running north-south and the entrance in the long (eastern) side. There is a two-bay porch on the facade. The first floor was divided into three rooms. The rooms at the north and south of the building were loading rooms and had separate entrances. The central room was the ordnance sargeant's office and had no outside entrance. The basement was divided into two storage rooms.
6. Alterations and additions: The house was converted to use as a residence for non-commissioned officers in 1933, and indoor plumbing was installed at that time. Some of the basement level windows and a door on the facade at the first-story level have been

infilled with brick. A window has been cut through on the rear of the building. The porch has been enclosed with railings and screens.

B. Sources of Information:

1. Original architectural drawings:

Holabird and Root, 300 West Adams St., Chicago, Illinois. 60606. Elevations, plan, stone diagrams, full scale detail of cornice and gutter. Drawings are water damaged.

2. Old views:

Mackern, H. G. Fort Sheridan: At Attention and Rest, Chicago, H. G. Mackern, 1897. n.p.

3. Bibliography:

Papers Relating to Fort Sheridan. Office of the Quartermaster General Consolidated Correspondence Files, 1784-1915 and Office of the Quartermaster General, Construction Division, Record Group 92. U.S. Army Continental Command, 6th Corps Area Records, Record Group 394, (contains specifications). National Archives and Records Service, Washington, D.C.

Real Property Records, Directorate of Facilities Engineering, Fort Sheridan, Illinois.

Prepared by Sally Kress Tompkins
Architectural Historian
Historic American
Buildings Survey
June 1979

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: A plain brick building with segmental arched openings but with none of the decorative detail which characterizes the more elaborate Holabird and Roche buildings at Fort Sheridan.
2. Condition of fabric: Generally good.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: A rectangular, one-story building measuring 21'-6" by 59'-4" with a full basement. The entrance is in the long side.
2. Foundations: Limestone rubble with a stone watertable.
3. Wall construction, finish, and color: The walls are constructed of buff-cream brick laid in common bond with five rows of stretchers to one row of headers. There is a brick belt course above the basement windows.
4. Structural systems: Brick bearing wall.
5. Porches: A two-bay, central porch with a shed roof has brick piers with inset stone bands and modified stone capitals. Plain wood railings and balusters surround the porch, which is screened. Wood lattice work covers the area between the brick piers from the porch floor to the ground. Wood stairs lead up to the porch on both the north and south sides. The stairs are painted a rust color. The sides, railings and lattices are painted beige.

There is a single-bay entry porch at the rear with a flat roof covered with tin. The porch has a wooden floor and is approached by a wooden stairway. Both floor and stairs are painted gray.

6. Chimneys: One orange-red brick chimney on the ridge of the roof, north of center.
7. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: The entrances have segmental arched, gauged brick lintels. One of the entrances in the facade has been infilled with brick. The other entrance has a paneled wood door with four lights. The rear door is paneled wood with three horizontal lights. The entrance to the basement is on the north side of the building at the bottom of a flight of concrete stairs. The door is paneled wood with four lights.
 - b. Windows: The windows are topped by segmental arched, gauged brick lintels. On the rear a basement window has been infilled with a pink-red brick and a new window cut through on the first floor level. A basement window on the south side has been partially infilled with brick, and glass brick has been installed in the remaining opening.

The windows are two-over-two light double hung sash. The sills are concrete.

8. Roof:

- a. Shape, covering: The roof is a gable-on-hip, covered with cement asbestos shingles.
- b. Cornice, eaves: There are overhanging eaves with wood out-riggers. All the trim, including the soffits, is painted beige.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: The basement is divided into three rooms, the central one containing the furnace. On the first floor, a central hallway provides access to a living room and dining room at the front of the house and a kitchen, den, bathroom and bedroom at the rear. The stairway to the basement descends from the kitchen.
2. Stairways: The enclosed, single run stairway into the basement is wood with a plain wood hand railing and no balusters.
3. Flooring: The basement floor is concrete. The hardwood floors on the first floor have boards measuring 2-1/4" across. The kitchen floor is covered with linoleum tile.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: In the basement the room on the north has brick walls. The room on the south has been wallpapered. The central area has painted plaster walls. The ceilings are covered with composition board. On the first floor the walls and ceilings are painted plaster.
5. Openings: There is an open, rectangular doorway between the living room and the hall. The other doorways have wood doors with five panels.

D. Site:

The building is located on Lyster Road between houses for non-commissioned officers' quarters (Building No. 90 and 91) and the Post Bakery (Building No. 34). It sits on a grassy lot with low lying shrubbery.

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PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) under the auspices of Interagency Archeological Services, Atlanta and funded by the U.S. Department of Army, Fort Sheridan, Illinois. It included a historical and architectural survey of the fort to provide the necessary data for implementation of the Fort Sheridan Historic District. Documentation was obtained on thirty-one buildings. The survey and documentation were accomplished by Sally Kress Tompkins, an architectural historian on the HABS staff, under the direction of John Poppeliers, Chief of HABS; Kenneth Anderson, Principal Architect; Carolyn Pitts, Principal Historian, and Allen Chambers, architectural historian and editor. The photographs were taken by William Kumpf of Architectural Camera, Chicago.